

Attorney Docket No. 046700-5003

83. The system of claim 81, wherein said received net present value bid information includes price values for each of the plurality of contract term segments.

IN THE ABSTRACT

Please delete the paragraph at page 36, lines 4 to 9 and substitute the following paragraph therefor:

A method and system for an electronic auction is described. Bids by participating bidders are specified over multiple contract term segments (e.g., years), and define a pattern of cash payments over time. The auction system converts the defined pattern of cash payments over time into a net present value bid. The net present value bids are used to effect a comparison between participating bidders.